



# FIRST THINGS FIRST

*The right system for bright futures*

## ARIZONA EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & HEALTH BOARD SOUTH PHOENIX REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The special meeting of the First Things First South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council; Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board was held on September 30, 2009 at Cartwright Elementary School District in the Governing Boardroom; 3401 North 67<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85033

Chairman Robert Donofrio called the meeting to order at 4:44 p.m. A brief welcome by Vice Chair Washington and introduction of Council Members, First Things First Staff, and guests in attendance took place.

**Council Members in Attendance:** Robert Donofrio, Chair; Cindy Segotta-Jones, Member; Dr. Rosalind Polston, Member Dr. Eva Marie Shivers, Member; Moises Gallegos, Member; Mary Thomson, Member Patricia Merk, Vice Chair James Washington.

**Members Not in Attendance:** Dr. William Ellert, Member.

UPDATES: Member Gallegos advised of the Head Start expansion, Vice Chair Washington gave an update on the September 10, 2009 Chair/Vice Chair meeting, Member Segotta-Jones requested that the Council monthly meeting dates be updated.

2. **DISCUSSION OF AGENDA; APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:**

Member Dr. Patricia Merk advised that she declared a conflict and excused herself for developmental screening. Dr. Eva Marie Shivers advised that she was in attendance and needed to be added as such. Dr. Eva Marie Shivers, Member moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of August 4, 2009 with the proposed changes, seconded by Council Member Rosalind Polston, all in favor, motion carried.

3. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**

- a. **Bruce Liggett** with the Childcare Association thanked the Council for their funding support which helped 8,000 children and 800 staff with the Emergency Scholarship Fund state wide and asked if they would consider a model program for twelve months that would pay for ongoing operational quality. The Council advised that they would put this item on a future agenda for discussion.
- b. **Kim Murphy** with Southwest Human Development expressed her gratitude to the Council for funding their program. Southwest Human Development began their program on July 1, 2009 and has served 109 children under the age of 6, and 67 families. The staff consists of 6 people and they cover all zip codes within the South Region. Southwest Human Development's program currently collaborating with Healthy Start, Women's Coalition, Tanner and is promoting Literacy through libraries.

4. **COORDINATION/COLLABORATION WITH GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY:** Cathy Thornton, Gila River Indian Community Regional Coordinator and Chair Priscilla Foote requested that the South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council consider coordinating efforts around Family, Friend, and Neighbor Care and/or a Family Resource Center within the 85339 zip code in the coming years. Dr. Patricia Merk, member and Dr. Donofrio, Chair volunteered for a workgroup that will work through coordination/collaboration and share ideas. Dr. Patricia Merk moved to enter into a coordination/collaboration workgroup with Gila River Indian Community, seconded by member Moises Gallegos, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried.
5. **EMERGENCY SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE:** Jonathon Gonzales, Regional Coordinator informed the Council that all the funds should be expended by December 2009 and First Things First is no longer accepting applications after tomorrow October 1, 2009. Jonathon also advised that with the number of providers and the number of families, the funds will sustain most of the families three or four months. Jonathon will have a better understanding of where we are when the new numbers come out in November 2009.
6. **NEEDS AND ASSETS DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE VOTE:** St. Luke's will be doing a study that will include questions related to benefits and ACCCHS. For an additional 150,000.00, it is estimated three hundred more surveys can be added specifically targeting the South Region. For an additional 250,000.00, one thousand five hundred surveys can be added to the Child Care Study, and 50,000.00 for ADHS Oral Health Analysis. The Council would like to have someone from St. Luke's come out and do a presentation on what they will offer.

Mary Thomson moved to allocate 150,000.00 for the St. Luke's Study contingent upon Dr. Shivers and Jonathon meeting with St. Luke's, seconded by Member Dr. Patricia Merk, all in favor, motion carried.

Dr. Eva Marie Shivers, Member moved to allocate 250,000.00 to the Child Care Study contingent on bidding or a negotiating process taking place. Motion seconded by Dr. Merk, Member, all in favor, no discussion, motion carried.

Member Moises Gallegos moved to add 50,000.00 to have the Oral Health Data analyzed, seconded by Dr. Merk, Member, all in favor, no discussion, motion carried.

7. **COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE:** Coordinator Gonzales briefed the Council on the coordination and collaboration efforts of the different regions and asked the Council if they wanted to participate.

Dr. Patricia Merk, Member moved to set aside 100,000.00 to join coordination efforts with the contingency that the South Region have input in the Scope of Work to be done, seconded by Dr. Eva Marie Shivers, member, all in favor, no discussion, motion carried.

For the record, Dr. Eva Marie Shivers had to go to a different meeting and excused herself at 11:47 a.m.

8. **FUNDING PLAN/STRATEGY UPDATES/DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE:** Coordinator Gonzales did an overview of the different strategies and the Council decided that they wanted to keep the following strategies:

-Teach

-Childcare Consultants

-Mental Health Consultants

-Health Development Screening  
-Professional Childhood Incentives  
& Stipends

-Dental Screening  
-Home Visiting

-Prenatal and Postnatal  
-Communication

**Possible Additional Strategies:**

-Needs and Assets  
-Regional Outreach and Presence  
-Coordination/Collaboration  
-Crisis Intervention: Amount to be determined  
-Transition for children from home to kindergarten

9. **NEXT MEETING DATE:** First Things First Staff to send out a request.

10. **ADJOURNMENT:** Council Member Mary Thomson moved to adjourn, seconded by Member Moises Gallegos, all in favor, no discussion, special meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

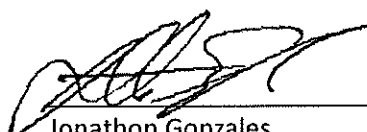
Respectfully Submitted



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Briggetta B. Hawks  
Administrative Assistant II

Approved



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Jonathon Gonzales  
Regional Coordinator

Council Approval



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Robert Donofrio, Chair  
South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council